



ATTORNEYS AT LAW



Robert Greene Sterne
Jorge A. Goldstein
David K.S. Comwell
Robert W. Esmond
Tracy-Gene G. Durkin
Michele A. Cimbala
Michael B. Ray
Robert E. Sokohl
Eric K. Steffe
Michael Q. Lee
Steven R. Ludwig
John M. Covert
Linda E. Homer
Robert C. Millonig
Donald J. Featherstone
Timothy J. Shea, Jr
Michael V. Messinger
Judith U. Kim

Patrick E. Garrett
Jeffrey T. Helvey
Heidi L. Kraus
Eldora L. Ellison
Thomas C. Fiala
Donald R. Banowitz
Peter A. Jackman
Jeffrey S. Weaver
Brian J. Del Buono
Edward W. Yee
Vincent L. Capuano
Virgil Lee Beaston
Theodore A. Wood
Elizabeth J. Haanes
Joseph S. Ostroff
Frank R. Cottingham
Rae Lynn P. Guest
Daniel A. Klein

Jason D. Eisenberg
Michael D. Specht
Tracy L. Muller
Jon E. Wright
LuAnne M. DeSantis
Ann E. Summerfield
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Shannon A. Carroll
Matthew E. Kelley
Michelle K. Holoubek
Marsha A. Rose

Young Tang
Christopher J. Walsh
W. Blake Coblenz*
James J. Pohl**
John T. Haran*
Mark W. Rygiel
Kevin W. McCabe

Scott M. Woodhouse
Liliana Di Nata-Baron
Peter A. Socarras
Jeffrey K. Mills
Danielle L. Letting
Lori Brandes
Steven C. Oppenheimer

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Of Counsel
Edward J. Kessler
Kenneth C. Bass III
Marvin C. Guthrie

*Admitted only in Maryland
**Admitted only in Virginia
•Practice Limited to Federal Agencies

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WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:
(202) 772-8846

INTERNET ADDRESS:
PCALVO@SKGF.COM

Art Unit 1647

Attn: Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Application No. 09/894,018; Filed: June 27, 2001
For: **Method and System for Optimizing
Minigenes and Peptides Encoded Thereby**
Inventors: SETTE *et al.*
Our Ref: 2473.0320003/EKS/PAC

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a);
2. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111;
3. Credit Card Payment Form (PTO-2038) in the amount of \$1,020.00 to cover the fee for a three month extension of time; and
4. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Paul A. Calvo
Agent for Applicants
Registration No. 57,913

EKS/PAC/dbj
Enclosures

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